

Poughkeepsies' Joint Water Board

September 12, 2017
Minutes

Board Members

Chris Gent
Rob Rolison
Jay Baisley
Mark Newton

Others

Randy Alstadt, Water Plant Administrator
Scott Volkman, SRDD
Marc Nelson, Acting City Administrator
Doreen Tignanelli, Customer

1. Approval of August 1, 2017 Minutes

Board approved minutes.

2. Public Participation

Doreen Tignanelli commented on County Extension request. She stated attorney was directed to change resolution make \$5,000 payment directly to the Town.

Marc Nelson provided Board bank statement

3. Plant Status Report/Upgrade Status

Randy Alstadt directed Board Members to his report. Randy stated that Plant has been operating well.

4. 2017 Operating Budget Status

Randy Alstadt provided Board current operating budget status. Randy stated that he expects to exceed budget as provided at August meeting. Randy stated he will provide further detail at October meeting.

5. 2018 Proposed Operating Budget

Randy provided Board a list of budget items that have been eliminated from his proposed budget based upon review by Marc Nelson, City Finance Commissioner and Charlie Emberger, Town Comptroller. Randy stated that Board needs to approve capital budget which includes a new Suspended Solids Tank at \$250,000 and roof replacement for Sludge Plant Building at \$110,000.

Mark Newton questioned what makes an item for capital budget. Randy responded that in the past it was items over \$100,000. Mark questioned why not put everything in operating budget.

Chris Gent asked if ne tank would be concrete. Randy replied that current tank is glass lined steel. Future tank will be evaluated in design.

Rob Rolison asked if there are things proposed that can be grouped into a capital project that could be borrowed for. Rob stated that City is concerned about the impact of this budget to City budget. Scott Volkman stated that items that have a useful life can be borrowed based and that City should discuss with

their Bond Counsel. Mark stated that City and Town should determine how to pay for budget separately. Scott Volkman agreed. Rob stated that City will look into how they can pay.

Jay Baisley asked if County has responsibility for capital project. Scott stated that County has responsibility to pay for both capital and operating cost increases as result of capital improvement. Mark stated that revenue from water sales should not be included in operating budget.

Mark stated that he is concerned that City has been delaying items Randy has requested for the last eight (8) years. Mark asked Randy if he is accepting the deletions. Randy stated the budget cuts reflect preventive maintenance and future cost saving tasks. Mark stated that if he was Randy he would fight for his budget or would not include items in the first place.

Marc Nelson stated City consider latest proposal close to acceptable but is still too high. Marc suggested Randy provide a 5-year budget proposal and that we should include a reserve account.

Mark Newton stated budget should include raise for Randy based upon completion of successful project. Marc Nelson stated that City doesn't look to include raises in 2018 budget.

Marc Nelson stated Board needs to agree to whether or not to borrow. Mark Newton stated that Board does not have the authority to tell the City or Town how to get funds. Rob stated that City wants to insure budget is what they can afford and that Town is in a better position.

6. County Extension Request

Scott Volkman stated that agreement he proposed last month is identical to one approved two years ago. Scott stated any change will require County, City and Town attorneys approval. Scott stated that after speaking with City and Town attorneys he has not obtained agreement. Scott agreed to work with Town Attorney, Jim Nelson and City Attorney Paul Ackermann to get agreement for October meeting.

7. Hudson River User Group Report

Randy Alstadt and Bill Carlos advised that Water Board will host formation meeting in September

8. Old Business

None

9. New Business

Randy Alstadt stated that he is having a personnel problem that he needs to discuss with Board. Board went into Executive Session to discuss. After session meeting was adjourned.

Board set next regularly scheduled meeting will be October 3, 2017, 4:30 PM at the Poughkeepsies' Water Treatment Facility Board Room